



Alta Wood Wright-Booth was born in Ware Neck, Gloucester County, Virginia. She graduated from Gloucester Training School (now Gloucester High School). Under the guidance of her grandmothers, Julia Wood and Lucy Evans, Alta expressed an interest in writing and reciting poetry as a Sunday School student at the Union Zion Baptist Church in Ware Neck. She also participated in school activities at the Gloucester Training Elementary School (now T. C. Walker Elementary School).

Alta has continually composed, recited and self-published her poetry. Her latest publication, "Do Something, Jump Up and Down" is a compilation of her life experiences and observations. These experiences can also be found in her other publications, "I Ain't Cooking No More", "Tribute to Black Americans" and in her first publication, simply titled, "Alta".

She has read her poetry in New York, Virginia, North Carolina, Texas and at the T. C. Walker Elementary School. Her poetry has been performed by a children's theatrical group at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

As a member of the First Baptist Church, Washington, DC, she assists with the Youth Arts Group in choral speaking and creative writing. She is a member of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., where Dr. Dorothy Height is Chair/President Emerita. NCNW was organized by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune to promote and recognize leadership among women of color. Alta is also a member of the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation where Ms. Marita Golden is President and Chief Executive Officer. This is the only organization in America that supports Black writers at every level of their development.

She is married to John Edward Booth, Sr., a native of Zanoni, Gloucester, VA. Alta and John reside in Washington, DC with her 94-year old mother, Marian Evans Washington, a native of Ware Neck. Of course, the grandchildren are the apples of her eye, Levi III, Raven, Warren, Jason, Nyles and Danielle.

